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PATENT APPLICATION

0941.65870

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ikeda et al.

Serial No.: 09/964,056

Conf. No.: 1448

Filed: 9/26/2001

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AND STORAGE APPARATUS

Art Unit: 2653

Examiner: Psitos, Aristotelis M.

)  
) I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited  
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) Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,  
) Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

) 12/10/04  
) Date  
) F-CLASS.WCM  
) Appr. February 20, 1998

Joseph P. Fox  
Registration No. 41,760  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

**AMENDMENT A**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 27, 2004, please amend the  
above-identified application as follows: